

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15

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E.O. LL652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: AD HOC MEETING ON "JAPAN PROPOSAL"

L. COUNCIL HAD FIRST DISCUSSION OF "JAPAN PROPOSAL" ON JUNE 10. SEC GEN INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NOT MAKE PRECISE RECOMMENDATIONS ON SCOPE, FINANCING, AND ORGANIZATION OF PROJECT UNTIL AFTER JUNE 19-20 AD HOC MEETING. HE DESCRIBED PURPOSES OF THAT MEETING AS REPORTED REFTEL AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS WOULD SEND REPRESENTATIVES IN A POSITION TO REFLECT THEIR GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS AS WELL AS TO APPLY THEIR OWN SUBSTANTIVE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE TO SHAPING THE SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE PROJECT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT BE ASKED TO TAKE A FIRM DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT ITSELF UNTIL AFTER THE AD HOC MEETING. HE STATED THAT JAPANESE HAD INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE ONE MILLION DOLLARS OVER LIFE OF PROJECT IF SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WERE FORTHCOMING FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

2. IN THE ENSUING DISCUSSION, MOST DELEGATIONS WHO
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SPOKE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR GENERAL CONCEPT OF PROJECT

AND INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD ATTEND AD HOC MEETING. AMONG MAJOR DELEGATIONS, GERMAN REP WAS MOST UNENTHUSIASTIC, BUT HE INDICATED THAT FRG WOULD SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO AD HOC MEETING. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS THOUGHT SCOPE AS STATED IN C(75)75 WAS TOO BROAD AND THAT PROJECT WOULD OVERLAP WITH OTHER OECD ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY NORTH/SOUTH REVIEW AND US-PROPOSED GROWTH STUDY. USDEL (KATZ) NOTED THAT SECRETARY HAD SUPPORTED JAPANESE PROPOSAL IN HIS OECD MINISTERIAL SPEECH. HE VOICED CONCERN, HOWEVER, THAT SECRETARIAT PAPERS ON PROJECT HAD THUS FAR LACKED FOCUS ON CONCRETE ISSUES AND URGED SECRETARIAT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT BASIC PURPOSE WAS NOT PURE RESEARCH BUT AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE POLICY-MAKERS WITH A LONGER-RANGE PERSPECTIVE OF POLICY OPTIONS.

3. SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED WORKING PAPER FOR AD HOC MEETING (CES/75.67) ON JUNE 10. IT WILL BE HAND-CARRIED TO WASHINGTON BY PREEG (EUR/RPE). PAPER PROPOSES FOLLOWING AS MAIN AREAS ON WHICH STUDY SHOULD FOCUS:

A) THE FUTURE EVOLUTION OF ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND TRADE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.

B) THE FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES AND THE GROUPS OF COUNTRIES WHICH TOGETHER COMPRISE THE LESS DEVELOPED WORLD.

C) THE NATURE OF LONGER-TERM NATURAL RESOURCES AND ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS AND, IN THE LIGHT OF POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR TRADE, INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC

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GROWTH.

D) THE LONGER-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRENDS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE CHANGING NATURE OF SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS, EXPECTATIONS, ATTITUDES TO WORK AND LIFE STYLES.

4. ON ORGANIZATION, PAPER PROPOSES THAT PROJECT BE ESTABLISHED BY COUNCIL AS PART II ACTIVITY FINANCED BY THOSE GOVERNMENTS WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE. IT SUGGESTS A RESEARCH TEAM OF 15-25 EXPERTS DIRECTED BY A STEERING COMMITTEE OF GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES. AN ADVISORY BOARD COMPOSED OF INDEPENDENT EXPERTS WOULD ALSO BE SET UP TO REVIEW QUALITY OF RESEARCH. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CLOSE LIHKS BETWEEN RESEARCH AND POLICY MAKERS, SECRETARIAT PAPER SUGGESTS THAT TWO OR THREE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS BE HELD PER YEAR IN WHICH SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WOULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON POLICY OPTIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE RESEARCH TEAM.

5. SECRETARIAT HAS REVISED AGENDA TO INDICATE CES/75.67
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AS BASIC DOCUMENT FOR ITEM 3 RATHER THAN C(75)75.

6. MISSION COMMENT: IN VIEW OF SECGEN'S DESCRIPTION OF ROLE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO AD HOC MEETING, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT US REP BE PREPARED TO INDICATE USG VIEWS ON SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE PROJECT.
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